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Academy slaps 10-year Oscars ban on Smith

This is the Academy's first action against the star after he slapped presenter Chris Jordan at the 94th Oscars. The Academy regretted that the event was overshadowed by the "unacceptable and harmful behaviour" of Smith. It also apologised for its handling of the situation, allowing Smith to remain at the venue. Smith will remain eligible to be nominated for and win awards in the future. He will not be allowed to show up to accept them.

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NIRANI: INVESTORS NOT GOING ANYWHERE

Industries Minister Murugesh Nirani ruled out any impact on Karnataka's ability to attract investment and termed the recent communal developments as a flicker that will fade out soon. **FULL INTERVIEW: P4**

FRIEND OF THE WINGS P2

IMRAN CAUGHT AND BOWLED

Loses no-trust motion after high drama; speaker, deputy resign minutes before voting

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ New Delhi

Security personnel at the parliament in Islamabad | AFP

PAKISTAN Prime Minister Imran Khan lost the no-trust motion against his government well past midnight on Saturday after a day-long drama. Just before the crucial voting took place in the National Assembly, Speaker Asad Qaiser and Deputy Speaker Qasim Suri had put in their papers. And, Ayaz Sadiq of PML-N took over the National Assembly's proceedings.

After dodging Parliament the entire day, the process of no-confidence vote began three minutes before midnight (Pak time), the Supreme Court's deadline. Imran's exit has been so unceremonious and dramatic that it won't be forgotten for a long time. "Imran Khan tried to compel the Speaker and Deputy Speaker to resist Vote of No Confidence and defy Supreme Court and failed. Instead, they chose to resign in a show of loyalty to Khan instead of the constitution. But, Khan didn't resign himself. Instead was dishonourably voted out. In the end, the Cabinet deserted him," tweeted Najam Sethi, renowed Pakistani journalist.

While Imran chose not to attend Parliament, he tried his best to evade being ousted, which included having meetings with his Cabinet Ministers. Reports suggest that he even contemplated getting the army chief sacked, though he met General Qamar Javed Bajwa earlier in the day, who reportedly asked Khan to behave.

Meanwhile, the scene outside the Parliament saw prison vehicles parked outside. Government officials had stopped taking orders from Khan and I&B Minister Choudhary Fawad Hussain changed his Twitter account bio to ex-I&B minister.

All airports in Pakistan have been issued an alert that no government officials can travel without a NOC, an alert has been issued at hospitals as well. Imran's arrest can't be ruled out. Earlier in the day, Imran had also set three conditions for conducting the vote.

WITH THIS ISSUE BEYOND IMRAN PLUS 12 PAGES MAGAZINE

BJP brass advises CM to focus on development

RAJESH K THAKUR & DEVARAJ B HIREHALLI @ New Delhi, Bengaluru

THE BJP central leadership, perhaps not too happy with the recent spate of controversies consuming Karnataka, is learnt to have advised Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai to make a wider outreach to the people of the state on development work started by the State and Central governments.

Over the past few months, a string of communally sensitive issues have been raised – the hijab row, ban on halal meat, boycott of Muslim vendors and ban on loudspeakers for azaan — with Bommai remaining mostly silent on the controversies.

Bommai, who was recently in the national capital, met BJP President JP Nadda and Union ministers and senior leaders Rajnath Singh and Nirmala Sitharaman, but reportedly did not get an appointment with Union Home Minister Amit Shah. Yet, former CM Jagadish Shettar managed to meet Shah on Thursday evening — just a few hours after Bommai left Delhi.

Shettar's meeting with Shah sparked speculation whether Karnataka will go to polls under the leadership of Bommai or someone else. However, Shettar described his meeting with Shah as "just a courtesy call". Sources in the BJP said: "Dekhate jaiye aage aage hota hai kya (Just wait and see what happens next)."

On Saturday, party sources said Bommai was told to tamp down on controversies and make all-out efforts to focus on the budget promises. A reliable source in the BJP said that Shah had, during his recent visit to Karnataka, reportedly pulled up Bommai and advised him to concentrate on implementation of the budget. P4

Central agencies to probe bomb threat mails for terror angle

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Bengaluru

THE Karnataka home department has written to Google to find out the IP addresses of the e-mails from which hoax bomb threats were reportedly made to 14 schools in and around the city. All the mails, with similar content, were sent from different IDs at different points of time on Friday.

City Police Commissioner Kamal Pant said there was a delay in obtaining information about the IP addresses as the e-mail portal is based in a foreign country. The mail is suspected to have originated from the US, but it could be a method the cyber crooks used to fool investigators.

Reacting to the case developments, Home Minister Araga Jnanendra on Saturday said that central agencies are also looking into the bomb hoax threats received by multiple private schools in and around the city, via different e-mail IDs.

"Central agencies have stepped in to look into the terror angle, and whether the mails have come from outside. They will also collect details from our investigation," Jnanendra said. P5

DIPIKA

Less than 6 months after giving birth to twins, Dipika Pallikal won the mixed doubles & women's doubles title at World Doubles C'ships P11

EXPRESS NEAD

7 held on charges of raping 16-yr-old girl

Bengaluru: The police have arrested seven persons, including two minors, in connection with the gang rape of a 16-year-old minor girl, reported in Yelahanka. The police are on the lookout for one more accused. P3

Another BMTC bus catches fire

Bengaluru: Nearly 35 passengers of a BMTC had a narrow escape when the bus which they were travelling in caught fire in front of SJP Polytechnic near KR Circle on Seshadri Road on Saturday afternoon. P3

Covaxin, Covishield prices slashed

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ New Delhi

PRIVATE hospitals will now be able to procure Covid-19 vaccines—Covaxin and Covisheild—for a reduced price of ₹225. The announcement by Bharat Biotech and the Serum Institute of India comes a day before the booster vaccination drive is to be thrown open to all adults.

"We are pleased to announce that after discussion with the Centre, SII has decided to revise the price of COVISHIELD for private hospitals from ₹600 to ₹225 per dose. We once again commend this decision from the Centre to open precautionary dose to all 18+," CEO of Serum Institute of India (SII) Adar Poonawalla tweeted on Saturday, hours after a meeting with the Centre. P7

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